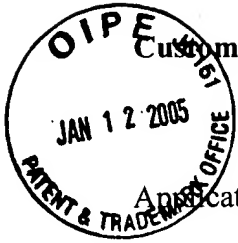


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Customer No. 24118

Attorney Docket MEW087-100/011018

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/980,431 )  
)  
Filing Date: 3/27/02 )  
)  
Priority Date: 4 December 2000 )  
)  
Inventor: YONNET, Claude )  
)  
For: PILOT VALVE )  
)  
Examiner: Krishnamurthy, Ramesh )  
)  
Art Unit: 3753 )

AMENDMENT

Director For Patents  
Mail Stop: Amendment With Extension  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 07/12/04, the Applicant requests the above-identified application to be re-examined in view of the following amendments and remarks:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,  
on 12 January 2005